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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/688,854	10/16/2000	Rick Rowe	IGTECH.0009P	1791

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EXAMINER

PILLAI, NAMITHA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

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DATE MAILED: 02/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/688,854

Applicant(s)

ROWE ET AL.

Examiner

Namitha Pillai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-14 and 17-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-14 and 17-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 October 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1-8, 10-14 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by U. S. Publication No. 2002/0077169 A1 (Kelly et al.), herein referred to as Kelly.

Referring to claim 1, Kelly discloses a method of configuring a graphical user interface associated with an application executed by a computing device of a gaming system (page 2, paragraph 27, lines 5-8). Kelly discloses that the gaming system includes at least one gaming device adapted to accept a wager by a player, present a game and grant an award for predetermined winning events (page 3, paragraph 39, lines 9-13). Kelly also discloses providing a set of navigation selectable elements (Figure 13). Kelly also discloses accepting a first input from a given user of the gaming system (step 2, Figure 3). Kelly also discloses accepting a second input from an operator of the gaming system (page 6, paragraph 76), wherein the primary account holder serves as the operator to input accessible games for the use. Kelly discloses providing user identification associated with the given user (page 6, paragraph 74, lines 2-5). Kelly also discloses determining a user profile from the user identification and determining which elements from the set of navigation selectable elements that the user is permitted to view in accordance with the user profile (page 7, paragraphs 87 and 88). Kelly discloses displaying

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only navigation selectable elements the user is allowed to view, wherein the resulting display is customized to the user based at least in part upon the first input and the second input (page 7, paragraph 76).

Referring to claim 2, Kelly discloses that the navigation selectable elements include container elements (page 7, paragraph 88, lines 5-7).

Referring to claim 3, Kelly discloses that the navigation selectable elements comprise application-initialing elements (reference number 1310, Figure 13).

Referring to claim 4, Kelly discloses that the navigation selectable elements are arranged in a hierarchical format (reference 1308, Figure 13), wherein each of the topics in the navigation area falls under a hierarchical format.

Referring to claim 5, Kelly discloses including the step of displaying one or more of the navigation selectable elements as buttons (reference number 1310, Figure 13).

Referring to claim 6, Kelly discloses a collection of data information that are grouped together and represented under containers that represent categories such as “scoring”, “prize” and “high scores”, therein representing a tree form, wherein this tree form represents categories of similar items are grouped together and structured thereby creating a tree structure.

Referring to claim 7, Kelly discloses the step of displaying the displayed navigation selectable elements in a form dependent upon the user profile (page 4, paragraph 50, lines 5-8).

Referring to claim 8, Kelly discloses that the user profile is associated with a device which displays said graphical user interface (page 6, paragraph 74, lines 2-5).

Referring to claim 10, Kelly discloses a method of configuring a graphical

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user interface associated with an application executed by a computing device of a gaming system (page 2, paragraph 27, lines 5-8). Kelly discloses that the gaming system includes at least one gaming device adapted to accept a wager by a player, present a game and grant an award for predetermined winning events (page 3, paragraph 39, lines 9-13). Kelly also discloses providing a set of navigation selectable elements having a predetermined order (Figure 13).

Kelly also discloses accepting a first input from a given user of the gaming system (step 2, Figure 3). Kelly also discloses accepting a second input from an operator of the gaming system (page 6, paragraph 76), wherein the primary account holder serves as the operator to input accessible games for the use. Kelly discloses providing user identification associated with the given user (page 6, paragraph 74, lines 2-5). Kelly discloses determining an access point for the ordered navigation selectable elements for the user from the profile and determining a portion of the navigation selectable elements which are accessible to the user and a portion of the navigation selectable elements which are not accessible to the user based on the order thereof, and displaying only one or more of the navigation selectable elements which are accessible to the user (page 4, paragraph 50, lines 5-14). Kelly also discloses that the resulting display is customized to the user based at least in part upon the first input and the second input (page 6, paragraph 76).

Referring to claim 11, Kelly discloses that the navigation selectable elements are arranged into one or more levels, with the access point comprises one of the levels (reference number 1308, Figure 13).

Referring to claim 12, Kelly discloses determining a configuration for the navigation selectable elements associated with one or more levels higher than the level with which the access point is associated are not accessible to the user (page 6, paragraph 76, lines 1-11).

Referring to claim 13, Kelly discloses determining a configuration for the navigation selectable elements based upon the user profile and displaying the navigation selectable elements in accordance with the configuration (page 4, paragraph 50, lines 5-14).

Referring to claim 14, Kelly discloses determining if the user is restricted from viewing one or more navigation selectable elements based upon the user profile and preventing the display of those elements (page 6, paragraph 76, lines 5-14).

Referring to claim 17, Kelly discloses a gaming system including a computing device adapted to accept a first input from a given user of the gaming system (page 2, paragraph 27, lines 2-9 and page 6, paragraph 74, lines 2-5) and a second input from an operator of the gaming system (page 6, paragraph 76, lines 1-6). Kelly discloses that the gaming system includes at least one gaming device adapted to accept a wager by a player, present a game and grant an award for predetermined winning events (page 3, paragraph 39, lines 9-13). Kelly discloses at least one first user station and at least one second user station associated with the system for displaying information and for providing input to the computing device (Figure 1 and page 2, paragraphs 29 and 30). Kelly discloses a graphical user interface for displaying information (Figure 13). Kelly discloses that the graphical user interface includes a main window having a navigation viewport displaying one or more navigation selectable elements (reference numbers 1308, 1310, 1312, 1314, Figure 13) with one or more of the one or more navigation selectable elements comprising an application initiating element (reference number 1310, Figure 13). Kelly

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discloses that the data viewport is arranged to display information associated with an application initiated by selection of one of the one or more application initiating elements (reference number 1326, Figure 13). Kelly discloses that the graphical user interface is adapted to display the navigation selectable elements in a plurality of configurations dependent upon a configuration of a station on which the graphical user interface is displayed or a user profile (page 4, paragraph 50, lines 5-14). Kelly discloses displaying only navigation selectable elements the user is allowed to view, wherein the resulting display is customized to the user based at least in part upon the first input and the second input (page 7, paragraph 76).

Referring to claim 18, Kelly discloses at least one first user station comprises a station having a touch-sensitive display (page 2, paragraph 34, lines 1-3) and wherein the graphical user interface adapted to display one or more of the navigation selectable elements as user selectable buttons (reference numbers 1310, 1312, 1314, Figure 13).

Referring to claim 19, Kelly discloses that at least one second user station includes mouse and keyboard input devices (page 3, paragraph 34, lines 1-3). Kelly discloses a collection of data information that are grouped together and represented under containers that represent categories such as "scoring", "prize" and "high scores", therein representing a tree form, wherein this tree form represents categories of similar items are grouped together and structured thereby creating a tree structure.

Referring to claim 20, Kelly discloses that the graphical user interface is associated with a gaming system accounting system (page 3, paragraph 39, lines 9-13).

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Response to Claim Changes

2. The Examiner acknowledges Applicant's amendments to claims 1, 10 and 17 and the canceling of claims 9, 15 and 16. The amendments to claims 1, 10 and 17 have been made to better specify the present invention but all claims are rejected under 35 U. S. C. 102 as being disclosed in prior arts.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 1/27/04 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach the method for configuring a graphical user interface associated with a gaming device.

Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, central FAX number (703) 872-9306 may be used. NOTE: A Request for Continuation (Rule 60 or 62) cannot be faxed.

Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for informal facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document. Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Namitha Pillai whose telephone number is (703) 305-7691. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (703) 308-3116.

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

Namitha Pillai
Assistant Examiner
Art Unit 2173
February 18, 2004



CAO (KEVIN) NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER